

and B2) and one D channel.

Independent Claims 1, 6, 9, 13 and 16

Independent Claims 1, 6, 9, 13 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Moteki et al.

5 The Examiner asserts that Moteki teaches “the Mixing/Splitting Unit 21 (a receiver) for receiving signals from the 23 using the format shown in Fig. 4, wherein the frame format provides a separate channel for each direction of at least one b channel (See col. 11, lines 1-15).”

Applicants note that Moteki teaches an interface structure of a coaxial cable 150 that is frequency-divided into channels for communication in upward and downward directions. A channel
10 structure is such that the communication in the upward direction is provided with B, C, D, M, ACK-C, and ACK-D channels and the communication in the downward direction is provided with B, C, D, and M channels.

Thus, as illustrated in Figure 4, the “Up” channel structure is separate from the “Down” channel structure and are, in fact, transmitted at different frequencies. This can be discerned in the
15 figures illustrating the embodiments taught for interfacing to a PBX. In Figures 40, 46, 51, and 53, a Transmission Frame Forming Unit 213 creates the *transmission* frames and a Received-Frame Dismantling Unit dismantles the *received* frames. The frames for each direction are illustrated in
Figures 42A and 42B, 45A and 45B, 52A and 52B, and 55A and 55B.

Independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 16 of the present application require that “each frame in
20 said frame format provides a separate channel for *each direction* of at least one” bearer (B) channel or signaling (D) channel (emphasis added) and independent Claim 9 requires that “each frame in said frame format provides a separate channel for *each direction* of at least one bearer (B) channel and at least one signaling (D) channel” (emphasis added).

Thus, Moteki et al. do not disclose or suggest that “each frame in said frame format
25 provides a separate channel for each direction of at least one” bearer (B) channel or signaling (D) channel, as required by independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 16, and do not disclose or suggest that “each frame in said frame format provides a separate channel for each direction of at least one bearer (B) channel and at least one signaling (D) channel,” as required by independent Claim 9.

Dependent Claims 2-5, 7-8, 10-12 and 14-15

30 Dependent Claims 2-5, 7-8, 10-12 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as

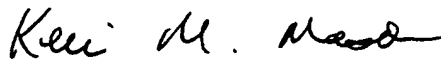
being anticipated by Moteki et al. Claims 2-5, 7-8, 10-12 and 14-15 are dependent on Claims 1, 6, 9, and 13, respectively, and are therefore patentably distinguished over Moteki et al. because of their dependency from independent Claims 1, 6, 9, and 13 for the reasons set forth above, as well as other elements these claims add in combination to their base claim.

5 All of the pending claims, i.e., claims 1 through 16, are in condition for allowance and such favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

10 The Examiner's attention to this matter is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



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